REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 13-16 remain pending in the present application as amended. Claims 1 and 13 have been amended to recite additional subject matter defining types of key frames. No claims have been added. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.

The Examiner has again rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Skyrme ("Full Product Review Adobe Live Motion"). Applicants respectfully traverse the Section 102 rejection insofar as it may be applied to the amended claims.

Independent claim 1 as amended recites a method of keyframing an object implemented at least in part by a computer, where at least one property and a time for the object are identified, and a first compound key frame is created at the time. A second time is then created for the object, as is a second compound key frame at the second time, but a change to the at least one property is received prior to creating the second compound key frame. Thus, the second compound key frame incorporates the change to the at least one property. Responsive to the received change to the at least one property, an attribute key frame is created if no attribute key frame exists for the at least one property at the time the received change is received, or an existing attribute key frame is changed if the existing attribute key frame exists at the time the received change is received.

As amended, claim 1 also recites a distinction between a compound key frame and an attribute key frame. In particular, such claim 1 recites that each attribute key frame is a key frame specific to the at least one property of the object, and each compound key frame is a key frame specific to all possible properties of the object. That is, a compound key frame encompasses all possible properties or attributes of the object, while an attribute key frame encompasses only the at least one property of the object. As a result, an attribute key frame includes much more information than a compound key frame, and thus is easier to manipulate and store.

Independent claim 13 as amended recites subject matter similar to that of claim 1 as amended, albeit as a computer system performing a method.

Applicants respectfully submit that Skyrme's perception of the LiveMotion product as set forth in the Skyrme reference clearly does not disclose or even appreciate the distinction

between an attribute key frame and a compound key frame, as is now specifically recited in claims 1 and 13. Such a distinction is set forth in the specification of the present application at paragraph 0008, where an attribute key frame is a key frame at the attribute level and a compound key frame is a key frame at the object level. As noted at paragraph 0025, a property of an object is equivalent to an attribute of such object. Thus, a compound key frame can be thought of as essentially a placeholder for a "virtual attribute key frame" on all possible attributes / properties. Other attribute key frames force this virtual attribute key frame to manifest itself on those attributes / properties. At any rate, inasmuch as Skyrme's perception of the LiveMotion product as set forth in the Skyrme reference clearly does not disclose or even appreciate the recited distinction between an attribute key frame and a compound key frame, as is set forth in claims 1 and 13, the Skyrme reference cannot be employed to anticipate such claims 1 and 13 as amended.

Applicants also respectfully submit that Skyrme's perception of the LiveMotion product as set forth in the Skyrme reference clearly does not disclose or even appreciate that, responsive to the received change to the at least one property (attribute), an attribute key frame as now specifically recited and distinguished from a compound key frame is created if no attribute key frame exists for the at least one property (attribute) at the time the received change is received, or an existing attribute key frame is changed if the existing attribute key frame exists at the time the received change is received, as is required by claims 1 and 13. For this reason too, the Skyrme reference cannot be employed to anticipate such claims 1 and 13 as amended.

Thus, for all of the aforementioned reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the Skyrme reference does not anticipate claims 1 or 13 or any claims depending therefrom, including claims 2-5 and 14-16. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection.

In view of the foregoing Amendment and Remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application including claims 1-5 and 13-16 is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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